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after presentation is to be brought out in book form by the Yale University Press. The program follows:

- I. The Genesis of the Earth. Professor Joseph Barrell. November 23.
- II. The Earth's Changing Surface and Climate. Professor Charles Schuchert. December 13.
- III. The Origin of Life. Professor Lorande Loss Woodruff. January 24.
- IV. The Pulse of Life. Professor Richard Swann Lull. February 15.
- V. Climate and Civilization. Dr. Ellsworth Huntington. April 20.

Thus there will be discussed: (1) The genesis of the earth and the rise of conditions necessary for the maintenance of life; (2) the surface changes, the great cycles of climatic change, and their cause or causes; (3) the origin of organic life on earth, the time, place and conditions necessary, and the changes undergone by matter to render it organic or possessed of life; (4) the march of organic evolution, not a slow process progressing at a constant rate of change, but rhythmic, the pulses or times of acceleration being coincident with and the direct outcome of the climatic and geologic changes already described. This includes the origin of man from his prehuman ancestry. (5) The recent climatic changes whose existence has been traced and recorded and which are found to have influenced the growth of civilization, the rise and migrations of peoples, and in some instances their fall from an estate of commanding importance. A prophecy of human destiny may here be given.

These lectures are to be given at the regular meetings of the society and therefore will not be open to the general public, but are to be the especial privilege of the members of Sigma Xi and a limited number of their friends to whom tickets of admission will be given. The lectures are to be held in Osborn Memorial Laboratory.

THE ENDOWMENT OF A MEDICAL SCHOOL AT THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

A CORRESPONDENT at the University of Chicago sends us the following information con-

cerning the endowment of a medical school noted in the last issue of SCIENCE:

In outlining the plans and hopes of the University of Chicago at its recent quarter-centennial celebration President Harry Pratt Judson said that what was needed to complete a school of medicine at the university was provision for clinical work and a clinical staff at the Midway, and that in his judgment the first need was for a hospital wholly under the control of the university, for medical teaching and for medical research; and the second need was provision of adequate endowment, in order that the hospital itself might be beyond the necessity of being financed by income from its patients, and in order that the medical faculty might be free to pursue their work of investigation and instruction without recourse to personal practise.

In direct fulfilment of this hope and plan, the university board of trustees has just made one of the most important announcements in the history of the institution. The plan announced to be put into early operation provides for an undergraduate medical school, a graduate medical school and medical research. The first mentioned will be on the Midway Plaisance, in close connection with the science departments of the university. The standards of admission and of graduation will be as high as those of any medical school in the country. The number of students will be limited to such as can receive the best possible training with the facilities available.

A teaching hospital, duly equipped with necessary laboratories and lecture rooms, will provide for clinical instruction. Suitable endowments will free the hospital from the necessity of depending on paying patients, and the faculty from the necessity of practise for a livelihood.

The graduate medical school will be on the west side in connection with the work now done by the Rush Medical College and the Presbyterian Hospital. It will provide for medical graduates who wish further training and for practitioners who wish to keep in touch with progress in medical science. Research will be carried on in both places under arrangements to be announced later.

The plan involves an addition to the resources of the university of the sum of five million three hundred thousand dollars, one million for the hospital on the Midway, three hundred thousand for a laboratory on the west side and four millions for endowment.

Towards the endowment fund the Rockefeller Foundation offers one million dollars and the

General Education Board one million dollars, provided the entire sum of five million three hundred thousand dollars shall be raised. Further pledges of individuals have been made to the amount of seven hundred thousand dollars. Thus two million seven hundred thousand dollars have already been secured. Two million six hundred thousand dollars remain to be secured and in the near future a campaign will be initiated to complete the fund.

In speaking of this announcement, which is probably the most significant that has ever been made in connection with higher medical education in Chicago, President Harry Pratt Judson says: "The medical plans which have just been announced represent many years of hoping and working and dreaming. These plans, we think, will not merely be, when carried out, a great addition to the resources and power of the university, but will render a very valuable service to Chicago, and to the cause of medical teaching and investigation in the entire country."

A later announcement is just made that half a million dollars toward this new medical fund for the University of Chicago has been given by Mr. and Mrs. Julius Rosenwald, of Chicago. Mr. Rosenwald, who is a trustee of the university and donor of the new Julius Rosenwald Hall devoted to the work of geology and geography, is one of the university's most generous and loyal friends; and Mrs. Rosenwald, who shares in this great gift, is widely known for her practical and constant sympathy with many movements for social and artistic advancement in Chicago.

At the meeting of the board of trustees of the university on November 14, the following committee was named to conduct the campaign for funds: President Harry Pratt Judson, chairman; Adolphus C. Bartlett, Dr. Frank Billings, Thomas E. Donnelley, Andrew MacLeish, Martin A. Ryerson, Julius Rosenwald, Robert L. Scott and Harold H. Swift.

THE COUNCIL OF NATIONAL DEFENCE

PRESIDENT WILSON announced recently the appointment of the members of the advisory commission to be associated with the Council of National Defence created by congress at the last session. The seven men named are: Daniel Willard, president of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad; Samuel Gompers, president of the American Federation of Labor; Dr. Franklin H. Martin, of Chicago; Howard E. Coffin, of Detroit; Bernard Baruch, of New York; Dr.

Hollis Godfrey, of Philadelphia, and Julius Rosenwald, of Chicago.

A statement by the President in connection with the announcement follows:

The Council of National Defence has been created because the congress has realized that the country is best prepared for war when thoroughly prepared for peace. From an economic point of view there is now very little difference between the machinery required for commercial efficiency and that required for military purposes. In both cases the whole industrial mechanism must be organized in the most effective way.

Upon this conception of the national welfare the council is organized in the words of the act "for the creation of relations which will render possible in time of need the immediate concentration and utilization of the resources of the nation."

The organization of the council likewise opens up a new and direct channel of communication and cooperation between business and scientific men and all departments of the government, and it is hoped that it will in addition become a rallying point for civic bodies working for the national defence.

The council's chief functions are:

1. The coordination of all forms of transportation and the development of means of transportation to meet the military, industrial and commercial needs of the nation.

2. The extension of the industrial mobilization work of the committee on industrial preparedness of the naval consulting board. Complete information as to our present manufacturing and producing facilities adaptable to many-sided uses of modern warfare will be procured, analyzed and made use of.

One of the objects of the council will be to inform American manufacturers as to the part which they can and must play in national emergency. It is empowered to establish at once and maintain through subordinate bodies of specially qualified persons an auxiliary organization composed of men of the best creative and administrative capacity, capable of mobilizing to the utmost the resources of the country.

The personnel of the council's advisory members, appointed without regard to party, marks the entrance of the non-partisan engineer and professional man into American governmental affairs on a wider scale than ever before. It is responsive to the increased demand for and need of business organization in public matters and for the presence there of the best specialists in their respective fields.

In the present instance the time of some of the